MARAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No representation on the subject has been received from the Tea Companies regarding any pressure from the State Government of Assam to shift Corporate Headquarters from outside Assam to Assam.

(c) Does not arise.

Modernisation of the Burnpur based HSCO

*155. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fresh international bids are being called for the modernisation plan of the Burnpur based Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) Government has approved a proposal to convert Indian Iron & Steel Company Limited (IISCO) into a Joint Venture (JV) with Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) holding minority stake. Action plan for the purpose has not yet-been finalised.

Subsidy on Steel for Orissa

*156. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the iron ore and mineral reserve of Orissa is the significant contributor to steel making process of the country;

(b) whether considering the Super Cyclone of 1999 in Orissa, Government and steel companies in the Public Sector have decided or propose to provide subsidy for concessional availability of construction material—steel;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) Yes, Sir. The Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), Nagpur have reported that the total recoverable iron (haematite) ore reserves in the State of Orissa are placed at 3294 million tonnes which account for 33% of the total all-India reserve of 10052 million tonnes. Production from these reserves is used for steel making. The other important mineral reserves available in the State